

New York April 28. 1857

Prof. Gray

Dear Sir: We delayed writing to you respecting the Juvenile Botany, because, finding that the plan of joint publication of books, even with the best of publishers, is attended with considerable trouble, and embarrasses the circulation of a book, we were waiting to see if some arrangement could be made with Messrs. Putnam & Co. that would relieve this new work from such a cumbersome machinery. We have concluded an entirely satisfactory agreement with P & Co. (they agreeing with us as to the desirableness of having a single publisher) by which, if agreeable to you, we are to publish the new work ourselves - we undertaking to supply them all they want on satisfactory terms. We propose of course, to offer the same terms to you ^{we pay} ~~of~~ P & Co. i. e. 10 per cent. on the wholesale price, on books sold; and we shall desire to announce it as soon as you will consent. We should like to know the size & shape you propose - title & number of illustrations; also, whether you would use many of the cuts of the depans, or would need to get many new ones. Of course, it will occur to you that it would be advantageous to use as many of those already prepared as could be wisely done. We shall be glad to hear from you as soon as practicable, in reference to the above points, needful for announcement, - of shape of words, though with better margin, & appearance, - ~~in~~ - merely remarking that a small 4 to, seems to us the most desirable and that it should not exceed 250 pages, & sell for 50¢ retail. ^{shape} But you will decide this & all other questions.

Very Truly & Respectfully Yours
Gustav & John & Thimney

Prof. As between a 12 mo. & small 4 to, there is a great much to choose; the former is cheaper, the latter perhaps, nearer -